GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:215
ANSWERED ON:07.08.2006
NEW FOREST POLICY
Kulaste Shri Faggan Singh

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the achievements made under the forest policy, 1988;

(b) whether the policy has failed to meet its objectives;

(c) if so, the factors attributed thereto;

(d) whether the Government has since prepared the draft of new forests Policy;

(e) if so, the present status thereof; and

(f) the time by which the new policy is likely to be implemented?

Answer

MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI A. RAJA)

(a) to (f): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.215 FOR ANSWER ON 07.08.2006 REGARDING NEW FOREST POLICY BY SHRI FAGGAN SINGH KULASTE.

(a) The achievements of National Forest Policy, 1988, inter alia, are as follows:

(i) Increase in the forest and tree cover.

(ii) Involvement of local communities in the protection, conservation and management of forests through Joint Forest Management Programme.

(iii) Meeting the requirement of fuel wood, fodder, minor forest produce and small timber of the rural and tribal populations.

(iv) Enhancing the livelihood opportunities of forest dependent communities by assigning the rights of minor forest produce.

(v) Conservation of Biological Diversity and Genetic Resources of the country through ex-situ and in-situ conservation measures

(vi) Significant contribution in maintenance of environment and ecological stability in the country.

(b)&(c) The National Forest Policy, 1988 outlines the importance of supply of adequate fuel wood and fodder to the rural and tribal population , soil and water conservation and achieving 33% forest & tree cover in the country etc. The following constraints are faced in the implementation of national forest policy:

(i) Increased biotic pressure including grazing and fire.

(ii) Inadequate financial resources

(iii) Inadequate human resources for the protection of forests.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise. The National Forest Commission has also recommended to continue with the National Forest Policy, 1988.

(f) Does not arise.